

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 08351 01 OF 02 051008Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----019516 051011Z /12

O 050932Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE  
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3955  
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 TEL AVIV 8351

EXDIS DIST AS NODIS

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR PBOR EG US IS  
SUBJ: DELIVERY OF EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL TO GOI

REFS: (A) STATE 169126, (B) TELEGRAM FROM VP'S PARTY (AIR  
FORCE TWO), DISPATCHED JULY 4 0155Z FOR AARON AND LEWIS  
FROM QUANDT/SAUNDERS

1. DELIVERED PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE TO BEGIN  
CONTAINING FORMAL INVITATION TO SEND FOREIGN MINISTER  
DAYAN TO LONDON MEETING AT 1615 HOURS JULY 4.

2. TEXT OF EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL IN REF A ARRIVED JUST AS  
OUR LARGE FOURTH OF JULY RECEPTION WAS GETTING UNDERWAY  
TUESDAY NIGHT. PRIME MINISTER BEGIN CAME TO RECEPTION  
SHORTLY THEREAFTER. I TOLD HIM THE PROPOSAL WAS IN,  
ALTHOUGH I HAD NOT HAD A CHANCE EVEN TO READ IT. I  
SUGGESTED I DELIVER IT FIRST THING WEDNESDAY MORNING,  
SINCE ENTIRE CABINET WAS ENGAGED AT KNESSET ALL NIGHT  
WITH DEBATE OVER A NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION AND DAYAN WOULD  
BE UNABLE EITHER TO COME TO THE RECEPTION OR TO DO ANY  
OTHER BUSINESS TUESDAY EVENING. (BEGIN LEFT KNESSET  
DEBATE TEMPORARILY AND MADE TRIP TO TEL AVIV DESPITE  
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GREAT INCONVENIENCE.) BEGIN READILY AGREED AND SAID THAT  
WEDNESDAY MORNING WOULD BE FINE. HE SUGGESTED I TAKE THE  
PROPOSAL TO DAYAN WHO WOULD PASS IT ON SUBSEQUENTLY TO HIM.

3. ACCORDINGLY, I SAW DAYAN AT HIS HOME IN ZAHALA AT  
0845 WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 5, AND HANDED OVER THE TEXT  
OF THE EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL AS CONTAINED IN REF A. BY THAT

TIME, HE AND EVERYONE ELSE HERE HAD HEARD RADIO REPORTS OF THE DETAILS OF THE PLAN AS THEY WERE PUBLISHED IN THE CAIRO PRESS THIS MORNING (\*).

4. DAYAN READ THE PROPOSAL THROUGH SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY. AS HE DID SO, I NOTICED HIS EXPRESSION AT SEVERAL POINTS SHOWED INTEREST IN WHAT HE WAS READING, AND I INTERPRET HIS REACTIONS AS MEANING HE SAW AT LEAST SOME POSSIBILITIES IN SOME OF THE CLAUSES. MY SENSE WAS THAT HE FOUND IT A LITTLE BETTER THAN HE HAD EXPECTED, THOUGH HIS EXPECTATIONS WERE OF COURSE EXTREMELY LOW.

5. HIS FIRST COMMENT AFTER HE FINISHED READING IT WAS TO ASK WHETHER I HAD ANY EXPLANATION FOR THE TITLE OF THE PROPOSAL. HE FOUND IT EXTREMELY CURIOUS THAT THERE WAS NO MENTION IN THE TITLE OF PEACE TREATIES OR PEACE AGREEMENTS OR "PROPOSALS FOR THE CONCLUSION OF PEACE BETWEEN....." OR SOME OTHER SUCH FORMULATION. I SAID I HAD NO EXPLANATION TO OFFER. (DAYAN IS ALWAYS ACUTELY SENSITIVE TO THE THINGS WHICH INFLUENCE BEGIN EITHER POSITIVELY OR NEGATIVELY. I AM SURE THIS IS WHAT HE HAD IN MIND, KNOWING IMMEDIATELY THAT THE TITLE IS LIKELY TO PRODUCE A MORE NEGATIVE REACTION IN BEGIN THAN NEED HAVE BEEN THE CASE OTHERWISE.)

6. I URGED DAYAN TO TRY HIS BEST TO KEEP THE ISRAELI  
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PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL AS TEMPERATE AND LOW-KEY AS POSSIBLE. I POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE NO "PRECONDITIONS" IN THE PROPOSAL, AND IT WOULD BE VERY MUCH IN ISRAEL'S INTEREST TO BE PERCEIVED AS EAGER TO GO TO LONDON TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL RATHER THAN BEING RELUCTANTLY DRAGGED THERE. DAYAN AGREED WITH THE BASIC POINT THAT ANY PUBLIC RESPONSE SHOULD NOT USE SUCH WORDS AS "REJECT," BUT HE SAID HE WAS CERTAIN THAT BEGIN AND OTHERS IN THE CABINET WOULD INSIST ON MAKING CLEAR PUBLICLY THE UNACCEPTABLE NATURE OF SOME ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL, NOT IMPLYING A REFUSAL

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3956

INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 TEL AVIV 8351

EXDIS DIST AS NODIS

TO DISCUSS THEM AT LONDON BUT TO PRECLUDE ANYONE FROM ASSUMING THAT AN ISRAELI DECISION TO ATTEND THE LONDON MEETING IMPLIED ACCEPTANCE IN ANY WAY, SHAPE, OR FORM OF THE EGYPTIAN PEACE PROPOSAL. HE SAID HE WOULD, OF COURSE, WORK HARD TO FIND CAREFUL LANGUAGE WHICH WALKED THIS NARROW LINE.

7. DAVID AARON AND I ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH DAYAN LATER THIS AFTERNOON, AT WHICH TIME WE WILL FOLLOW THE TALKING POINTS TRANSMITTED IN REF B, AND AARON CAN GIVE DAYAN SOME OF THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERICS FROM THE ALEXANDRIA MEETING. HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM AARON AT THAT TIME. AT OUR BRIEF MEETING THIS MORNING, HOWEVER, WHICH INVOLVED ONLY DAYAN AND ME, I THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO STRESS ONE OF THOSE TALKING POINTS BEFORE DAYAN REPORTED TO BEGIN ON THE CONTENT OF THE PROPOSAL. THAT WAS THE SECOND SENTENCE IN THE FOURTH TALKING POINT: NAMELY, THAT SADAT MADE CLEAR HE DOES NOT RPT NOT SEE ACTUAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AS PRECEDING AGREEMENT ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. I WANTED DAYAN TO UNDERSTAND THIS AT THE OUTSET, SINCE IT HAS BEEN THE COMMON ASSUMPTION HERE THAT SADAT WAS INSISTING ON WITHDRAWAL BEING COMPLETED  
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BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS ON SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS COMMENCED.

8. DAYAN ACKNOWLEDGED THERE WERE NO "PRECONDITIONS" IN THE EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL, AND IN EFFECT CONFIRMED MY ASSUMPTION THAT THERE WOULD BE NO DOUBT ABOUT HIS GOING TO LONDON. NONETHELESS, THE CABINET WILL HAVE TO FORMALLY HAVE TO AUTHORIZE HIS ATTENDANCE SOMETIME LATER THIS WEEK, OR ON SUNDAY AT THE LATEST.

9. DAYAN VOLUNTEERED THE THOUGHT THAT HE PERSONALLY

WOULD HAVE BEEN DELIGHTED TO GO TO EL ARISH INSTEAD OF LONDON, AND SAID HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHY WE HAD INSISTED ON LONDON. I SAID I PRESUMED THAT IT WAS A GREAT DEAL EASIER FOR THE SECRETARY TO MEET IN LONDON AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, BUT THAT EL ARISH WAS STILL A LIVE POSSIBILITY FOR SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS. HE SAID AGAIN THAT HE WOULD FIND EL ARISH AN EXCELLENT LOCALE; THE PRIME MINISTER WAS INTRIGUED WITH THE IDEA OF BEERSHEVA FOR REASONS OF COMPARABILITY, BUT AS FAR AS HE, DAYAN, WAS CONCERNED, EL ARISH WOULD BE FINE. WE LEFT IT AT THAT. LEWIS

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014